

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

1. (Currently Amended) A closure assembly for ~~use at the~~ an opening of a drinking vessel, comprising:

a cap including a hollow mouthpiece protruding ~~therefrom~~ from the cap and having a first aperture at ~~its~~ a free end through which liquid in ~~said~~ the vessel can flow out upon application of suction at to the mouthpiece;

a support ~~provided~~ located inside the mouthpiece and having at least one second aperture that, in conjunction with the first aperture, ~~define~~ defines a path for ~~said~~ flow of the liquid; and

a valve member comprising a resiliently deformable diaphragm located between the mouthpiece and the support, the diaphragm having an aperture in the path and normally bearing resiliently against the support to ~~have its~~ close the aperture closed by in the diaphragm with the support, thereby blocking the path, ~~the arrangement being such that, wherein,~~ upon the application of suction at the mouthpiece, the diaphragm is deformed ~~under pressure and moves away from the support to have its~~ so that the aperture in the diaphragm is opened to ~~thereby permit said the~~ flow of the liquid.

2. (Currently Amended) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm has a part that normally bears resiliently against and ~~thus~~ closes the second aperture, and the second aperture is opened when the diaphragm is deformed ~~to have its~~ so that the aperture in the diaphragm is opened.

3. (Currently Amended) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm is concave and the support has a concave part in which the diaphragm is located and ~~resiliently~~ against which the diaphragm ~~normally~~ resiliently bears when suction is not applied at the mouthpiece.

4. (Currently Amended) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the diaphragm aperture is positioned centrally ~~of in~~ in the diaphragm, and the support part includes at ~~its~~ a periphery a plurality of ~~said the~~ second apertures, surrounding the ~~diaphragm~~ aperture in the diaphragm.

5. (Currently Amended) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diaphragm is located by the support at a position immediately behind the ~~mouthpiece~~ first aperture.

6. (Currently Amended) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support is hollow and is positioned co-axially inside the mouthpiece, each of the support and the mouth piece having an upper end including the respective apertures second and first apertures, respectively.

7. (Original) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein the valve member includes a sleeve closed at one end that provides the diaphragm, the sleeve being compressed between the mouthpiece and the support.

8. (Original) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the valve member is mounted on and encloses the support.

9. (Currently Amended) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein the support includes a peripheral flange outside the mouthpiece and engageable with the cap for locating the ~~apertured~~ part of the support including the second aperture inside the mouthpiece.

10. (Currently Amended) The closure assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cap includes at least one breather hole, and the valve member includes a resiliently deformable part which normally bears resiliently against and ~~thus~~ closes the breather hole and, upon the application of suction at the mouthpiece, the resilient deformable part is deformed under pressure and moves away from the breather hole to open it, opening the breather hole to thereby equalise equalize pressure across at opposite sides of the diaphragm.

11. (Currently Amended) A closure assembly for ~~use at the~~ an opening of a drinking vessel, comprising:

a cap including a mouthpiece protruding ~~therefrom~~ from the cap and having a first aperture at ~~its~~ a free end through which liquid in ~~said the~~ vessel can flow out upon application of suction at the mouthpiece;

a support ~~provided~~ located inside the mouthpiece and having at least one second aperture to permit ~~said~~ flow of liquid; and

a valve member comprising a resiliently deformable diaphragm located between the mouthpiece and the support, ~~which is apertured and is~~ having an aperture, disposed between the first and the second apertures, and ~~normally bears~~ bearing resiliently against the support

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~~to have its~~ when suction is not applied at the mouthpiece so the aperture in the valve member  
is closed by the support, ~~wherein, the arrangement being such that~~ upon the application of  
suction at the mouthpiece, the diaphragm is deformed ~~under pressure~~ and moves away from  
the support ~~to have its~~ so that the aperture in the diaphragm is opened to ~~thereby permit said~~  
the flow of the liquid through ~~also~~ the first and second apertures.